

Indiana Teachers Advisory Council

September 16, 2006

Indiana Department of Education



Present: Dr. Suellen Reed, Anna Shults (Indiana Teacher of the Year 2007), Matt Walsh (Milken Educator), Mark Weaver (Milken Educator), Janet Pernell (Milken Educator), Theresa Meyer, Jan Weir (Milken Educator) Molly Seward (Indiana Teacher of the Year), Tony Willis

(Indiana Teacher of the Year), Sarah Powley (Milken Educator), Sherry Annee (Milken Educator), Judy Frapps (Indiana Teacher of the Year), Alicia Harris (Milken Educator), Kim Giesting (Indiana Teacher of the Year), Daphne Draa (Milken Educator), Louisa LaGrotto (Indiana Teacher of the Year), Mariama Carson (Milken Educator). Lance Brand (Milken Educator), and Cathy Danyluk (DOE)



*See contact information below

Introductions were made and starting with our new Indiana Teacher of the Year- Anna Shults. She teaches third grade at Fall Creek Elementary School in Fishers, IN.



Challenges:



- Art, as it is taught in the elementary schools, is often taught by a single teacher who is responsible for several schools (may have 500-1000 students).
- Foreign languages are being encouraged in elementary schools but budgeting is often very challenging.
- ISTEP is coming up but in some communities (rural to urban), the parents have such low expectations and it can be demoralizing to teachers to not have the familial support for this testing.
- Teacher licensing in the area of foreign language is causing shortages - especially in elementary schools- because most foreign language teachers are certified in 5-12.
- With the limited funds at the state level, #1 will be tuition support from the state, #2 will be full day kindergarten and #3 will be technology funds (Indiana Plan for Digital-Age Learning) among other programs which must have funding.
- The role of "nature" and student's behavior and performance is being explored - kids that "play outside" and are exposed to nature have fewer problems in schools. But, more and more schools are even removing recess in order to spend more time in remediation!



- Dual credit (both HS and college) credit can have a tremendously positive impact - especially for those students who are academically disadvantaged; but, there may be limits set for how many credits a student can get - this should not occur.
- The need for the addition of books to local



libraries and into the home is still high. We all know how important reading is to kids.



- <http://www.donorschoice.org> This online program can enable teachers to post projects which need to be funded and people can donate monies to any projects that they see online.

*Contact information:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Weaver, Mark | mweaver@ccs.k12.in.us |
| • Danyluk, Cathy | cdanyluk@doe.state.in.us |
| • Walsh, Matt | mwalsh@brownsburg.k12.in.us |
| | jmwalsh@ameritech.net |
| • Brand, Lance | lbrand@delcomschools.org |
| • Willis, Tony | twillis@ccs.k12.in.us |
| • Powley, Sarah | spowley@tsc.k12.in.us |
| • Annee, Sherry | sannee@brebeuf.org |
| • Fraps, Judy | jfraps@msdwt.k12.in.us |
| • Harris, Alicia | alicia.harris@wayne.k12.in.us |
| • Shults, Anna | ashults@she.k12.in.us |
| • Seward, Molly | mseward@pike.k12.in.us |
| • Giesting, Kim | kgiestin@fayette.k12.in.us |
| • Draa, Daphne | draad@ips.k12.in.us |
| • LaGrotto, Louisa | llagrotto@msdwt.k12.in.us |
| | lagrotto@doe.state.in.us |
| • Meyer, Theresa Knipstein | tknipste@butler.edu |
| • Shaheed-Carson, Mariama | mcarson@pike.k12.in.us |
| • Pernell, Janet | jpernell@msdpt.k12.in.us |
| • Weir, Jan | janweir@msdlt.k12.in.us |